SAN FRANCISCO VA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM PGY2 PAIN MANAGEMENT & PALLIATIVE CARE RESIDENCY | FAQS

Q: Do you have an open house?

A: We host a series of virtual open houses in November. Additional details will be distributed via email and included in the ASHP Residency Directory.

Q: Is an in-person interview required?

A: No, interviews will be conducted via a video platform (e.g. Zoom, Microsoft Teams, etc.).

Q: Is there a special form you require as part of the letter of recommendation?

A: No, we use the template that is available in PhORCAS. You can download the Reference Writer Instructions document and provide to individuals writing your recommendations.

Q: Do I need to include details of my PGY1 rotation experience in my CV?

A: Yes, your CV should include details of completed rotation activities and any teaching or community service activities. So that we may better understand your clinical experience, please include details regarding activities and responsibilities for completed AND anticipated rotations. For rotations that have not yet been completed (anticipated), you can include expected activities and general structure (rounding, face-to-face or telephone clinics etc.).

Q: Must I be a U.S. Citizen at the time I apply for the residency program?

A: Yes, you must be a U.S. Citizen when you apply. We cannot consider applicants who are in the process of obtaining citizenship.

Q: Who should I ask to write letters of recommendation?

A: Please ask individuals who can address the qualities outlined in the "Reference Writer Instructions" document, for example, academic ability, communication skills, leadership, initiative, and motivation, cooperativeness and ability to work with others, dependability, willingness to accept constructive criticism, and weaknesses. At least one of the letters should be written by a preceptor who has worked directly with you in a patient care experience.

Q: Does the application deadline refer to when the application must be received?

A: Yes, the application deadline refers to the date the application is due to PhORCAS.

Q: What are the strengths of your program?

A: We feel that our program has many notable strengths. To name a few:

- Innovative interdisciplinary care teams across pain, palliative care, and substance use disorder clinics.
- Clinical pharmacist scopes of practice that facilitate autonomous patient care and medication optimization.
- A cutting-edge practice setting that embraces diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Affiliation with the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) and a system that cultivates learning and continuous systems improvement.
- Individualization of the pharmacy residency program to meet the resident's interests and goals.
- A close-knit pharmacy service that thrives under outstanding pharmacy leadership.
- Service to a diverse patient population located throughout a large geographic area in Northern California.